

March 5, 2021

TESTIMONY OF KEITH CAGLE, PRESIDENT FRIENDS OF CONNECTICUT SPORTSMEN

RB 6491 AN ACT CONCERNING NONLETHAL ELECTRONIC DEFENSE WEAPONS

Co-Chairs Senator Winfield and Representative Stafstrom, Vice Chairs, Ranking Members and Distinguished Members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Keith Cagle and I am President of Friends of Connecticut Sportsmen, a not-for-profit 501(c)(4) representing the interests of more than twenty-five member fish and game clubs throughout Connecticut and growing. Our member clubs have a long tradition of being stewards of the land and waterways in Connecticut, and the animal, bird and fish populations that inhabit them.

Friends of Connecticut Sportsmen strongly urges you to support *Raised Bill 6491, An Act Concerning Nonlethal Electronic Defense Weapons*.

Non lethal electronic defense weapons, or "stun guns," provide an important means of self-defense that has been determined by the Supreme Court to be "bearable arms" within the meaning of the Second Amendment. The landmark decision in *Caetano vs Massachusetts* affirms that the Second Amendment does extend to arms that were not in existence at the time of the founding, including stun guns.

RB 6491 will clarify the Constitutional right affirmed in the *Caetano* decision and therefore, should be passed.

Thank you for your consideration of the views of Friends of Connecticut Sportsmen.

Sincerely,

Keith Cagle

Keith Cagle, President